

10/524228
DT01 Rec'd PCT/PT 09 FEB 2005

In the Claims:

Please AMEND the claims as follows:

1. (Original) A method of determining the presence or severity of ischaemia in a tissue, the method comprising the steps of inserting a pH sensor into the tissue, and measuring the intracompartmental pH in the tissue.
2. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the tissue is muscle.
3. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in ~~any preceding~~ claim 1, wherein a second sensor probe is used to measure the intracompartmental pressure in the tissue.
4. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in ~~any preceding~~ claim 1, wherein the ~~or each~~ sensor is mounted on a ~~respective~~ catheter.
5. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in ~~any preceding~~ claim 4, wherein the ~~or each~~ catheter is inserted into the muscle through a ~~respective~~ cannula.
6. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in ~~any preceding~~ claim 5, wherein the ~~or each~~ cannula is inserted into skeletal muscle in an orientation that is generally parallel to the muscle fibres.
7. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in ~~any preceding~~ claim 5, wherein the tissue is adjacent to a bone fracture, and wherein the ~~or each~~ cannula is inserted into the muscle adjacent to, but not communicating with, the fracture site.
8. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in ~~any preceding~~ claim 1, wherein the reading from the ~~or each~~ sensor is compared with a calibrated scale to determine the extent of tissue damage.
9. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in ~~any preceding~~ claim 1, wherein the ischaemia involves Acute Compartment Syndrome.
10. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in ~~any preceding~~ claim 1, wherein the ischaemia involves one of the group consisting of a transplant ~~or~~ and a tissue flap.
11. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in ~~any preceding~~ claim 1, wherein the ischaemia involves a shock selected from the group consisting of septic shock, neurogenic shock, cardiogenic shock ~~or~~ and hypovolaemic shock.
12. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in ~~any preceding~~ claim 1, wherein the ischaemia involves vascular surgery.

13. (Original) Apparatus for determining the presence or severity of ischaemia, the apparatus having a pH sensor adapted to be inserted into a muscle.
14. (Original) Apparatus as claimed in claim 13, wherein the pH sensor is mounted on a catheter.
15. (Original) Apparatus as claimed in claim 14, wherein the catheter is glass-tipped.
16. (Original) Apparatus as claimed in claim 14, wherein the catheter is antimony-tipped.
17. (Currently Amended) Apparatus as claimed in ~~any one of claims 12-16~~ claim 13, wherein the apparatus also includes a pressure sensor coupled to a pressure recording device.
18. (Original) Apparatus as claimed in claim 17, wherein the pH sensor and the pressure sensor are mounted on the same catheter.
19. (Currently Amended) Apparatus as claimed in ~~any one of claims 12-18~~ claim 13, wherein the pH sensor is connected to a pH recorder.
20. (Currently Amended) The use of a pH sensor device for the determination of the presence or the severity of ischaemia ~~and typically Acute Compartment Syndrome~~.
21. (Original) The use of a pH sensor device according to claim 20, wherein the ischaemia involves Acute Compartment Syndrome.
22. (Original) A method of determining information concerning the condition of soft tissue, the method comprising the steps of inserting a pH sensor into the soft tissue and measuring the pH in the tissue.
23. (Original) A method of measuring intracompartmental pH, including the step of inserting a pH sensor directly into a muscle.